

April 3, 1984

LB 341

modify, would tie these two things together. So if you have this chart that I prepared and distributed, if, for instance, the percent of the school costs that are state aid do not go up from 33 percent to 36 percent in the year '85-86 to '86-87, then the amendment I have would say that the qualifying levy will not go up from 50 cents to 60 cents as it shows on the chart. It would in fact go up halfway just as the percentage on the right-hand column goes up halfway, then the qualifying levy would go up halfway. So it links the two together and it is important that that happen and I don't think we have much attention, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: I don't believe we do, Senator. We will try to get some. (Gavel). Order in the Chamber please so we can hear the speaker.

SENATOR LAMB: That in a nutshell is what the amendment does. If you look at the right-hand column that I have on that sheet that I passed out, if the percent of total school costs as state aid does not go up as called for in the intent language, then the qualifying levy for equalization will not go up to the extent that it says in the bill. In other words, they are linked together so if we only get half as much state aid as we expect, then the qualifying levy would go up only half as much. Now this is what happens if you don't have this amendment on there. You squeeze this equalization money into fewer and fewer districts because fewer and fewer districts have that high qualifying levy. So for some districts it is going to be a real windfall unless there is other legislation which would reduce the amount of equalization aid and consequently increase the foundation aid. So you really do need this amendment in my opinion to make it a workable bill.

PRESIDENT: Senator Vickers.

SENATOR VICKERS: Well, Mr. President and members, I rise to oppose the Lamb amendment. We had the discussion on 341 in the past and at that time I told you that the purpose of equalization was to try to address those areas who had the largest problem as it related to the support of their